

Property Address ~~3610 and~~ 4103 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro vicinity, Prince George's County  
Owner Name/Address Jack Queen, 4103 Old Crain Highway/John M. Myers, 3610 Old Crain Highway  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772 Year Built 1852

**Description:**

Bleak Hill was previously surveyed for the Prince George's Historic Sites and Districts Plan in 1981 and by the Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission in 1989. Since the time of the prior survey, two of the outbuildings are no longer extant. Neither building was labeled on the site plan of the prior survey form. The building on the west side of U.S. 301 at the base of the lane leading to the frame tenant house, and the building north of the tenant house no longer exist. The remainder of the buildings have not been altered since the previous survey.

**National Register Evaluation:**

Bleak Hill, constructed in 1852, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as a good example of a farm complex with several agricultural buildings and tenant houses, as well as a large Greek Revival main house. Character-defining features, such as a symmetrical fenestration pattern, wrap-around porch, lunette windows in the gable ends and molded return cornices with brackets, possess excellent integrity. Original features include paneled wood double doors, windows and a curved interior staircase. The property retains good site integrity, including a tree-lined driveway, agricultural lands, tenant houses and a mid-nineteenth century barn.

The property is not eligible under Criterion A since research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. Based upon the date of construction and the property type, there is a likelihood that an archaeological component could exist on the property. However, as no archaeological investigation has been conducted, the eligibility of the property under Criterion D cannot be assessed at this time.

Bleak Hill is also a contributing resource within the Woodland Historic District (PG:79-63). The Woodland Historic District was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places by the Maryland Historical Trust in July 1993.

**Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:**

The National Register boundaries of Bleak Hill include three tax parcels found on Prince George's County Tax Map 93. Parcel 13, owned by Jack Queen, consists of 13.9 hectares (34.3 acres) and includes the 3 barns, the garage and a frame tenant house. Parcel 87, also owned by Jack Queen, consists of 1.82 hectares (4.5 acres), and includes the main house, spring house and concrete-block tenant house. An unnumbered parcel, owned by John Myers, consists of 2 acres and includes a frame tenant house. The National Register boundaries encompass a total of 16.5 hectares (40.8 acres). The property is bounded on the north and south by adjacent tax parcels, on the east by Old Crain Highway and on the west by Crain Highway (U.S. 301). The boundaries include all of the contributing elements of the property.

**MHT CONCURRENCE:**

Eligibility ☒ recommended ☐ not recommended

Criteria ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Comments:

  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

Reviewer, NR program

Date

**Preparer:**

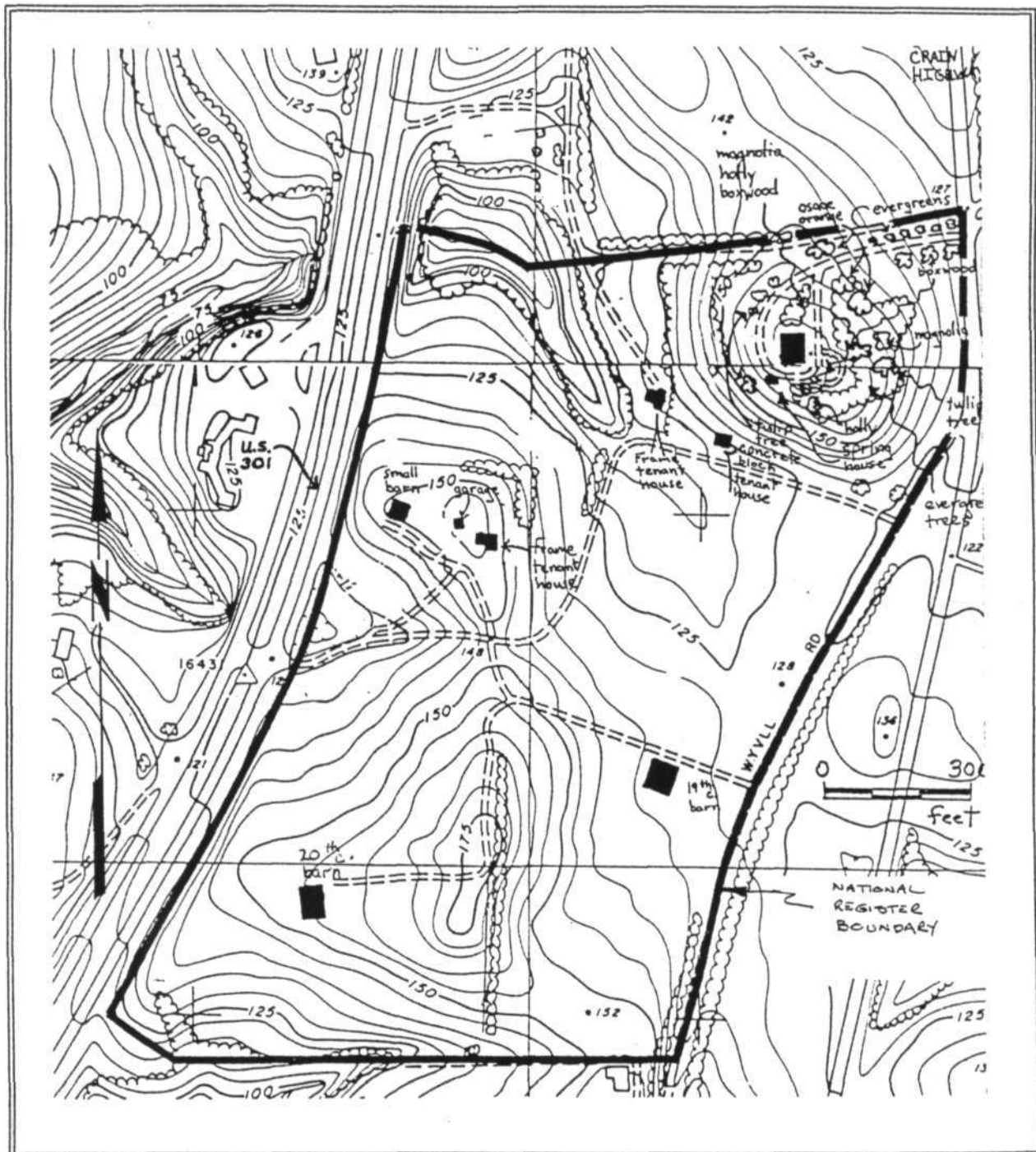
P.A.C. Spero & Company

September 1996/revised November 1998

Property Address ~~3610~~ and 4103 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro vicinity, Prince George's County  
Owner Name/Address Jack Queen, 4103 Old Crain Highway/John M. Myers, 3610 Old Crain Highway  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

Year Built 1852

Resource Sketch Map and National Register Boundary Map:



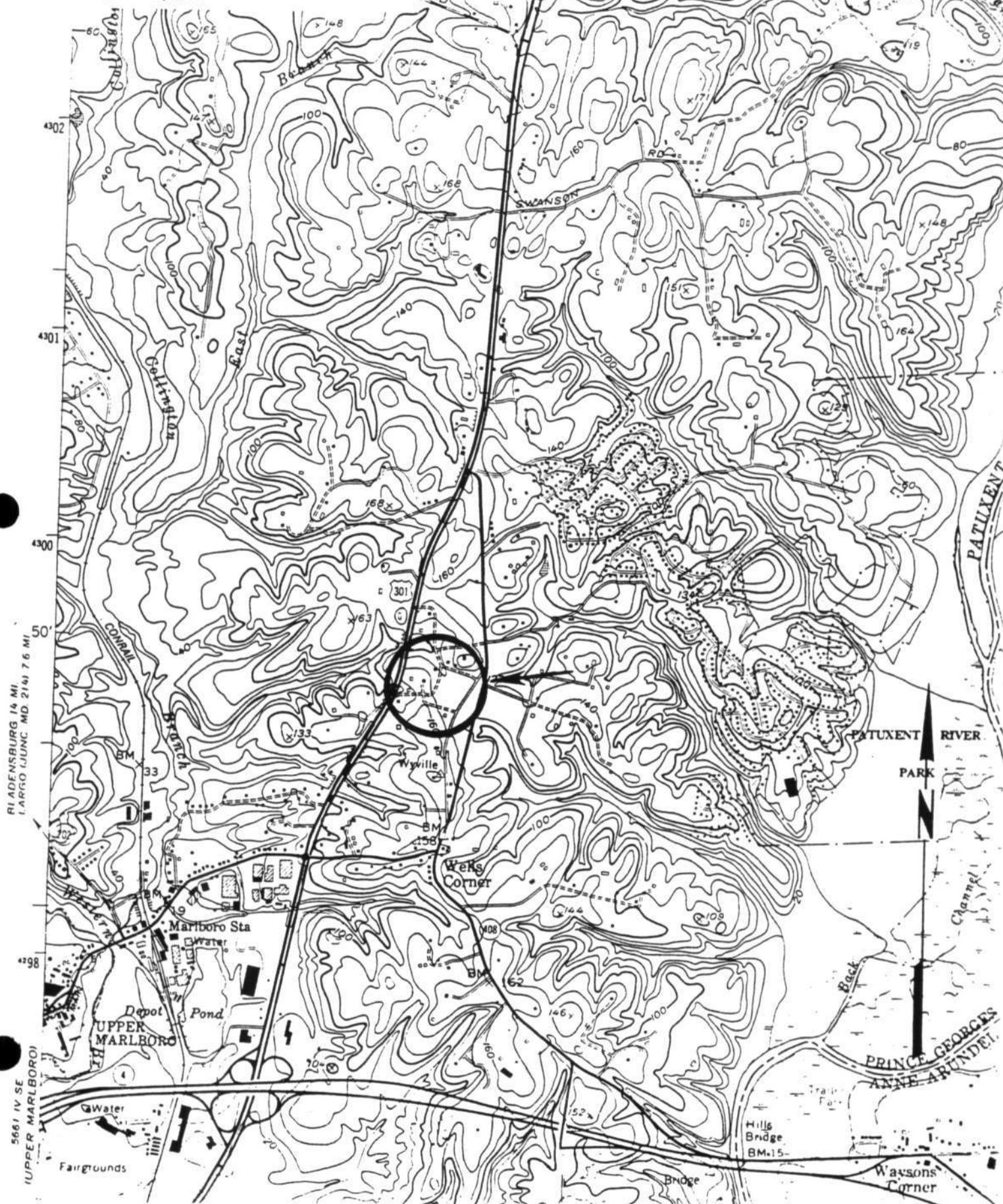
U.S. 301 South Corridor  
Transportation Study

Survey #: A0101 PG: 79-6

Property Name: BLEAK HILL

Town/County: UPPER MARLBORO VICINITY, PG. CO.

Quadrangle: BRISTOL









- 1 P.G. # 79-6
- 2 Black Hill, Prince George's County, MD
- 3 Tim Tambarrino 9/96
- 4 P.A.C. Spero + Co. 40 W. Chesapeake Ave  
# 412, Baltimore, MD 21204
- 5 4103 Old Cran Highway East elevation of house,  
West View
- 6 1 of 11



- 1 P.G. # 79-63-6
- 2 Bleak Hill, Prince Georges County, MD
- 3 Tim Tamburrino 9/96
- 4 P.A.C. Spero + Co. 40 W. Cheseapeake Ave #412,  
Baltimore, MD 21204
- 5 4103 Old Crain Highway West elevation of  
House East View
- 6 2 of 11





1. P.B. #79-6 3-4
2. Bleak Hill Prince Georges County, MD
3. Tim Tamburrino 9/96
4. P.A.L. Spero + Co, 40 W. Chesapeake Ave, #412  
Baltimore, MD 21204
- 5 4103 Old Crain Highway Springhouse  
North View
- 6 3 of 11





- 1 P.G. # 79-6
- 2 Bleak Hill Prince Georges County, MD
3. Tim Tamburino 9/96
4. P.A.C. Spero + Co., 40 W. Chesapeake Ave,  
#412, Balto., md 21204
- 5 4103 old Crain Highway barn, South  
View

6 4 of 11



1. P.G. # 79-6
2. Bleak Hill Prince Georges County, MD
3. Tim Tamburrino 9/96
4. P.A.C. Spero + Co. 40 W. Chesapeake Ave,  
#412 Balto, md 21204
- 5 4103 old Crain Highway <sup>concrete</sup> Tent House,  
West View
- 6 5 of 11





- 1 PG # 79-6-
- 2 Black Hill, Prince Georges County, MD
- 3 Tim Tamborrino 9/96
- 4 P.A.C Spero + Co. 40 W. Chesapeake Ave.  
# 412, Baltimore, MD 21201
- 5 4103 old Crain Highway, Foursquare  
Tenant House, North View South  
elevation

6 6 of 10



1. PG: 79-6
2. BLEAK HILL
3. PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MD
4. TIM TAMBURRINO
5. 11-98
6. MD SHPO
7. TENANT HOUSE, ACCESS FROM CRAIN HIGHWAY  
VIEW SE

B 7 of 11



1 P.G. # 79-6

2 Bleak Hill Prince Georges County, MD

3. Tim Tamburrino 9/96

4. P.A.C. Spero + Co, 40 W. Chesapeake Ave,  
#412, Balto, md 21204

5 4103 old Crain Highway garage  
garage, North View

6 8 of 11





1. P.G. # 79-6
2. Bleak Hill Prince Georges County, MD
3. Tim Tamborrino 9/96  
H.P.A.C. Spero + Co, 40 W. Chesapeake Ave, #412  
Balto, md 21204
- 5 4103 old Cram Highway Barn,  
North elevation South view
- 6 9 of 11



1. P.G. # 79-6
2. Bleak Hill Prince George's County, MD
3. Tim Tamburrino 9/96
4. P.A.L. Spero + Co. 40 W. Chesapeake Ave, #412  
Baltimore, MD 21204
5. 4103 Old Crain Highway Barn,  
West elevation East view
- 6 10 of 11



1. PG. # 79-6<sup>3-4</sup>
2. Bleak Hill Prince Georges County, MD
3. Tim Tambarrino
4. P.A.C. Sperry + Co. 40 W Chesapeake Ave.  
# 412, Balt. Md 21204
- 5 4103 Old Crain Highway South view  
of Barn North elevation
- 6 II of II

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST CONTINUATION SHEET  
U.S. 301 SOUTH TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR PROJECT

Property Name: Bleak Hill  
Survey No.: P.G. #79-63-6 (PACS A97)

PG: 79-6

Property Address 4103 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro vicinity, Prince George's County  
Owner Name/Address Jack Queen, 4103 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772  
Year Built 1852

**Description:**

Bleak Hill was previously surveyed for the Prince George's Historic Sites and Districts Plan in 1981 and by the Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission in 1989. Since the time of the prior survey, two of the outbuildings are no longer extant. Both buildings were not labeled on the site plan of the prior survey form. The building on the west side of U.S. 301 at the base of the lane leading to the frame tenant house, and the building north of the tenant house no longer exist. The remainder of the buildings have not been altered since the previous survey.

**National Register Evaluation:**

Bleak Hill, constructed in 1852, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, as a good example of a farm complex with several agricultural buildings and tenant houses, as well as a large Greek Revival main house. Character-defining features, such as a symmetrical fenestration pattern, wrap-around porch, lunette windows in the gable ends and molded return cornices with brackets, possess excellent integrity. Original features include paneled wood double doors, windows and a curved interior staircase. The property retains good site integrity, including a tree-lined driveway, agricultural lands, tenant houses and a mid-nineteenth century barn.

The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. Based upon the date of construction and the property type, there is a likelihood that an archaeological component could exist on the property. However, as no archaeological investigation has been conducted, the eligibility of the property under Criterion D cannot be assessed at this time.

In 1988, the Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission judged that a portion of Old Crain Highway in the vicinity of Bleak Hill was eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a rural historic district. Bleak Hill is contributing resource of the rural historic district.

**Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:**

The National Register boundaries of Bleak Hill follow the current property lines of its tax parcel (Tax Map 93, Lot/Block #P13 and 87). This 15.7 ha (38.8 acre) parcel is bounded on the north and south by adjacent parcels, on the east by Old Crain Highway and on the west by Crain Highway. The boundary includes all of the land currently associated with the property, the main house, driveway, tenant house and barns, all of which are contributing elements of the property.

**MHT CONCURRENCE:**

Eligibility X recommended        not recommended

Criteria   A     B   X   C     D   Considerations   A     B     C     D     E     F     G   None

Comments: The proposed NR boundaries appear to exclude one of the tenant houses  
discussed on the form.

Suzanne Pickens

07/21/1997

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

*Bleak Hill*  
Reviewer, NR program

7/21/97  
Date

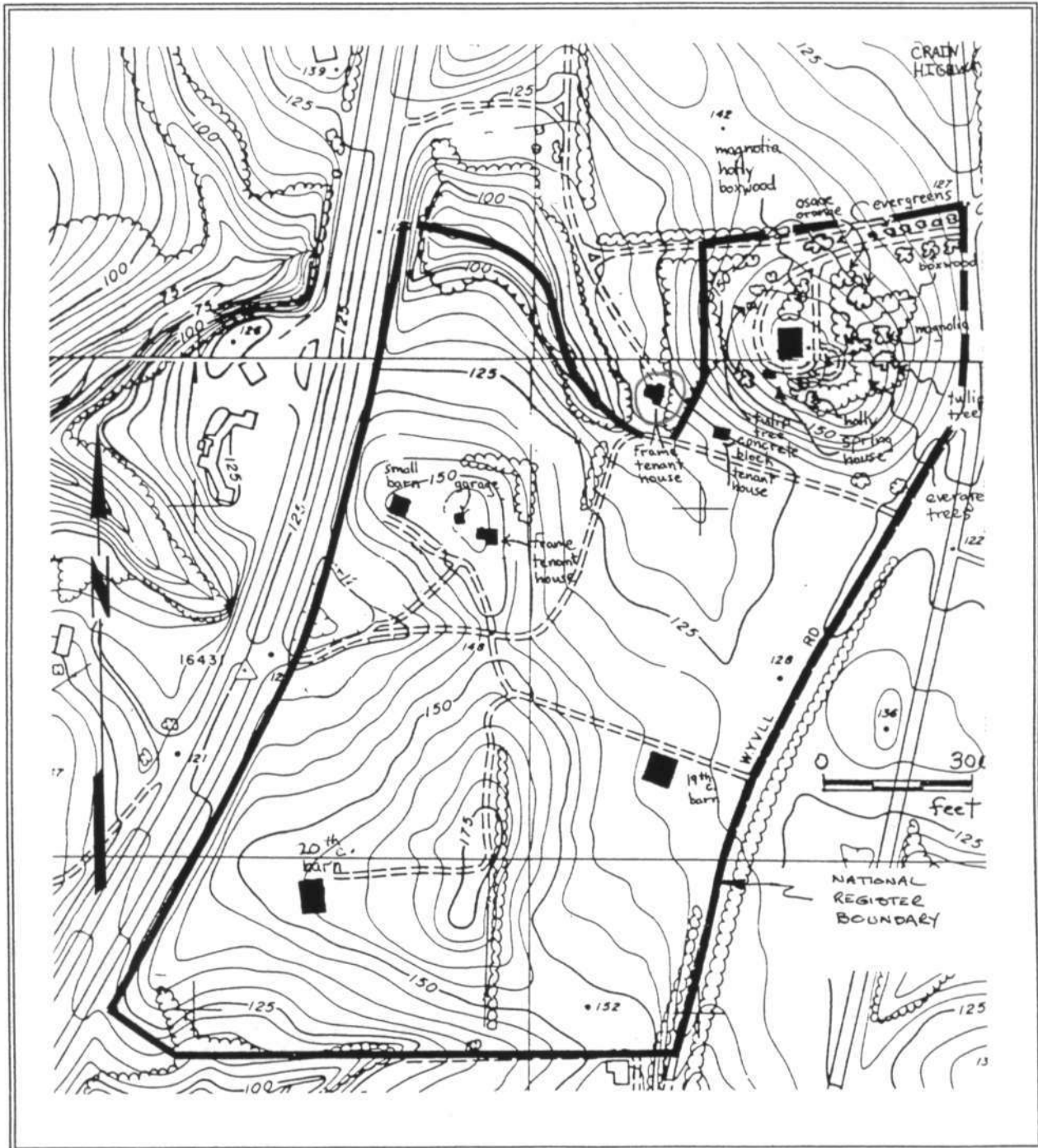
**Preparer:**

*P.A.C. Spero & Company*  
September 1996

PG: 79-6

Property Address 4103 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro vicinity, Prince George's County  
Owner Name/Address Jack Queen, 4103 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772  
Year Built 1852

Resource Sketch Map and National Register Boundary Map:

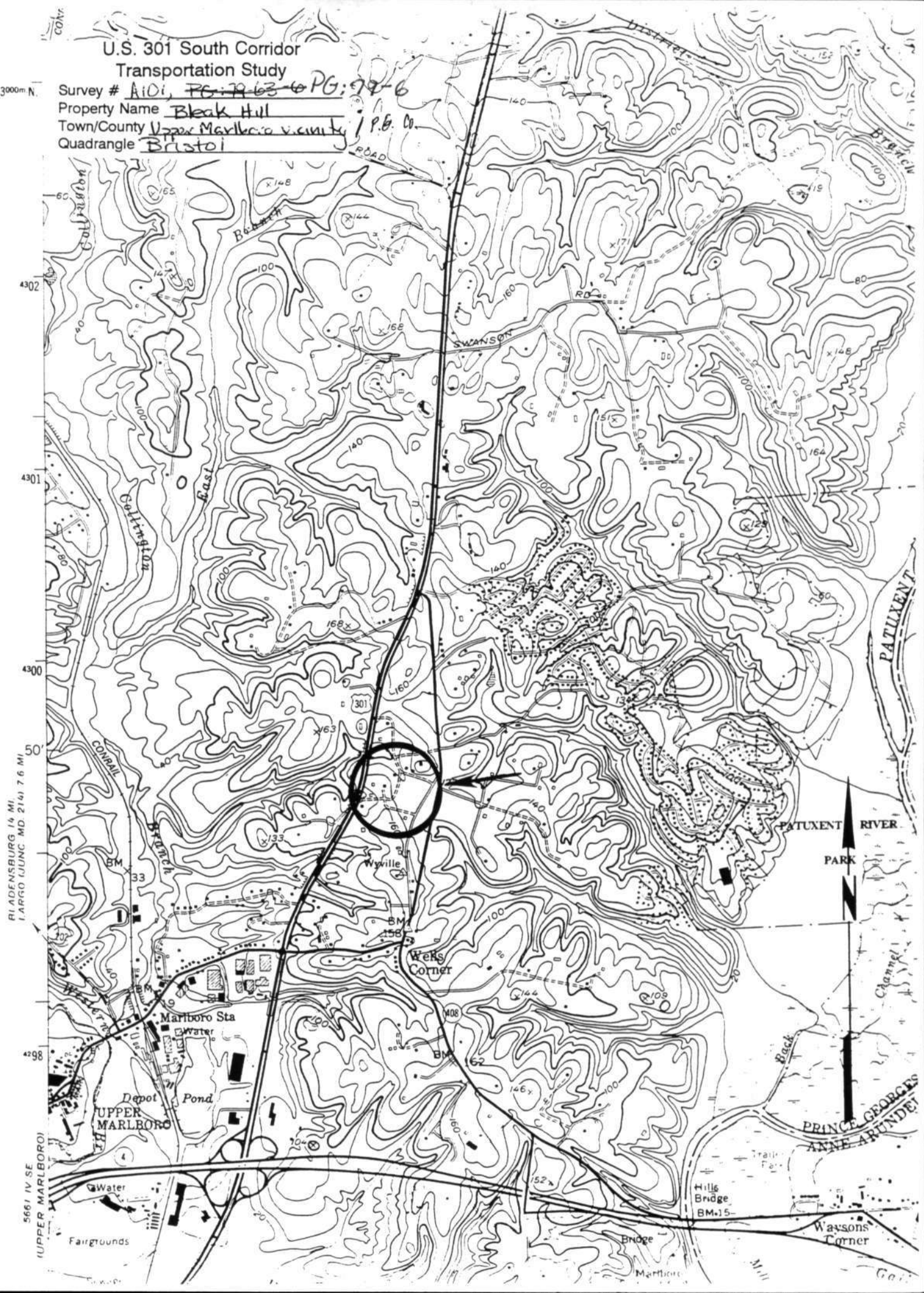




U.S. 301 South Corridor  
Transportation Study

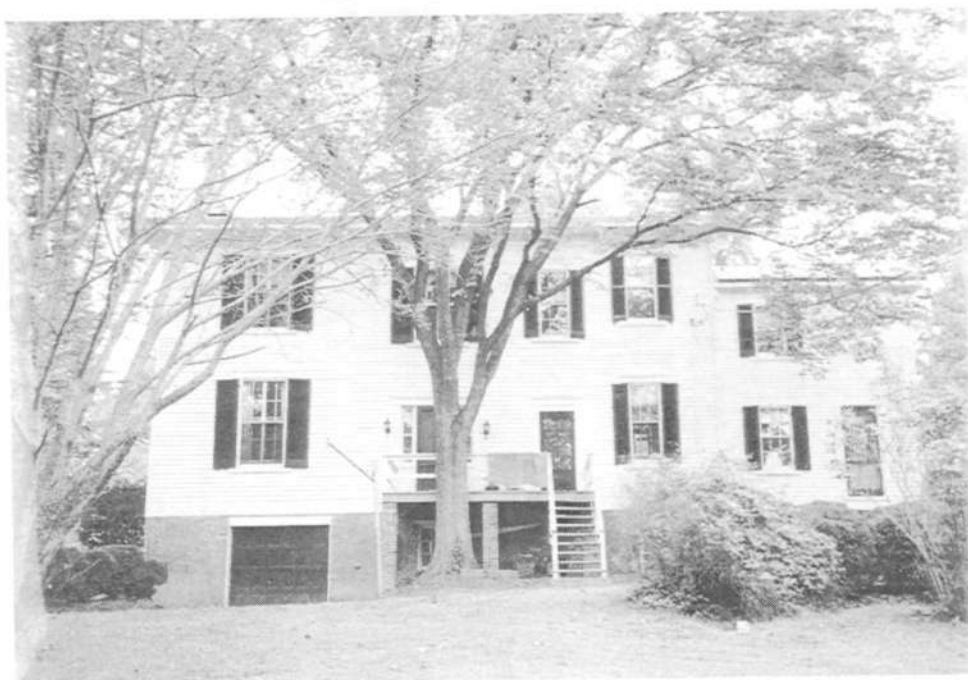
4303000m N

Survey # A101, PG: 72-63 to PG: 72-6  
Property Name Black Hill  
Town/County Upper Marlboro vicinity / P.B. Co.  
Quadrangle Bristol





PG: 79-6



PG:79-6





PG:79-6



PG:79-6



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #79-6 Building Date: 1852

Building Name: Bleak Hill

Location: 4105 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

Bleak Hill is a large, three-by-two bay frame two story Greek Revival style dwelling, constructed in 1852. It has a side gable, three bay main entrance facade and two story south kitchen wing probably constructed at a later date. The house stands on a knoll, bounded by Old Crain Highway and Route 301, and is a prominent landmark. The three-bay east main facade has central entrance through a six-panel door. Windows on the first story are floor-to-ceiling height, double hung wood sash of 12/12 lights with a wide central muntin. The first story is sheltered by a four-bay entrance porch set high on brick piers interspaced with wood lattice. The porch roof is supported on paired chamfered wood posts standing on base blocks. The balustrade is a combination of plain rectangular balusters and panels of lattice between the paired porch posts. Bleak Hill is covered with white painted wood siding and stands on a brick foundation. The interior plan is asymmetrical. The wide central stair hall runs the length of the house to a rear door, flanked on the north by two parlors. On the south is the dining room and a service hallway with a side stair, pantry, bath and entrance to the kitchen wing. Sharing the knoll with the house is a springhouse. The rolling 37-acre property south and west of Bleak Hill contains three tenant houses, two twentieth century and one nineteenth century barn.

Significance

Bleak Hill is significant as a well preserved and outstanding example of a Greek Revival style plantation house in Prince George's County. It is one of the larger, more ornate dwellings in that style surviving in the County. The house was constructed in 1853 for Richard S. Hill on the 715-acre farm east of Upper Marlboro that he inherited from his father. Virtually all of the land between the Patuxent River and the boundary of the Town of Upper Marlboro was part of the landholdings of the Hill family from the early 18th through the late 19th century. Bleak Hill is among four historic Hill family dwellings in that area. It is notable for its Georgian plan and Greek Revival architectural details on both the interior and exterior. The exterior has a prominent bracketed crown-molded cornice with deep returns. There are lunette windows in the gable ends, dentil molding around the porch cornice and prominent wooden lintels above the windows and entry door. The south kitchen wing repeats at a smaller, simpler scale the moldings of the main block. The interior has an outstanding curving main stair with stair-end brackets and an octagonal newel. There are six marble mantels in the dwelling. A barn south of the house dates to the mid-19th century and is significant for its interior structure.

Acreage: 4.5 acres



# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. P.G.#79-6

Magi No.

DOE yes no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Bleak Hill

and/or common Bleak Hill

## 2. Location

street & number 4105 Old Crain Highway not for publicationcity, town Upper Marlboro vicinity of congressional district 5state Maryland county Prince George's County

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u>district</u>	<u>public</u>	<u>X</u> occupied	<u>agriculture</u>	<u>museum</u>
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u>unoccupied</u>	<u>commercial</u>	<u>park</u>
<u>structure</u>	<u>both</u>	<u>work in progress</u>	<u>educational</u>	<u>X</u> private residence
<u>site</u>	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u>entertainment</u>	<u>religious</u>
<u>object</u>	<u>in process</u>	<u>yes: restricted</u>	<u>government</u>	<u>scientific</u>
	<u>being considered</u>	<u>yes: unrestricted</u>	<u>industrial</u>	<u>transportation</u>
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u>X</u> no	<u>military</u>	<u>other:</u>

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Jack and Elizabeth Queen

street &amp; number 4105 Old Crain Highway telephone no.:

city, town Upper Marlboro state and zip code Maryland 20772

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Court House liber 5413street & number Main Street folio 54city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date July 1981 federal state X county localdepository for survey records P.G. Co. Historic Preservation Commission  
14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive, Room 4010city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

## 7. Description

Survey No. PG#79-6

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Bleak Hill is a large, three-by-two bay frame two story Greek Revival style dwelling, constructed in 1852. It has a side gable, three bay main entrance facade. The low two story south kitchen wing has constructed at a later date than the main block. The house stands on a knoll, on rolling terrain bounded on the east by Old Crain Highway and on the west by Route 301. It is visible from both Route 301 and Old Crain Highway and is a prominent landmark in the area.

The three-bay east main facade has central entrance through a six-panel door. The rectangular panels align under each other vertically, 3 panels to each door. There is a seam down the center of the door, indicating that it may once have been a double door. The surround is plain wood molding with an inner bead. The wide lintel has a raised ogee molding. The door is surmounted by a rectangular transom with a sidelight at each end. Four sidelights flank each side of the entrance, above a plain board panel. There are also flanking louvered door shutters, painted black.

Windows on the first story are floor-to-ceiling height, double hung wood sash of 12/12 lights with a wide central muntin. The surrounds are similar to the main entrance surround, plain board moldings with a crown molded lintel, flanked by louvered wooden shutters. The first story is sheltered by a four-bay entrance porch set high on brick piers interspaced with wood lattice. There is a centered brick stairway with six steps up to the wood floor of the porch. The combination hip and shed porch roof is supported on paired chamfered wood posts standing on base blocks and having capital moldings. There is a plain boxed frieze and dentils beneath the overhanging eaves. There are flat pilasters where the porch roof meets the wall. The balustrade is a combination of plain rectangular balusters and panels of lattice between the paired porch posts.

Bleak Hill is covered with white painted horizontal lapped wood siding. It stands on a high common bond brick foundation. The main block and entrance porch are roofed with black-painted standing seam metal. The gable roof of the kitchen wing is covered with wood shingle.

The second story on the main facade has three evenly spaced 8/8 double hung wood sash windows with wide central vertical muntins. The overhanging boxed crown-molded cornice is supported by evenly spaced wood brackets set along a frieze board.

The north gable end has two closely spaced central bays, from barred windows at foundation level through 6/6 sash windows at first and second

Description (continued)

story levels. There is a lunette window in the gable peak. Just west of the lunette a large square opening was cut and is filled by a black-painted louvered covering. It is for the exhaust of an attic fan. The overhanging cornice is deeply returned. The boxed raking cornice has identical treatment to that on the main facade. Two interior corbelled white-painted end chimneys rise from the east and west roof slopes.

The four-bay west rear facade is somewhat irregular in the placement and size of door and window openings. The south bay has a large 8/8 sash window at first and second story levels. The grade at ground level has been lowered exposing a full one story height of brick foundation into which a panelled garage door is inserted. The grade rises slightly across the rest of the facade but the high brick foundation is still evident. The second bay contains the rear entrance to the central stair hall. The door is six panel, flanked by four sidelights. At second story level is an 8/8 sash window set slightly low, lighting the interior main stairway between the first and second story.

The third bay has a 6-panel entrance door which leads to a service hall that parallels the main stair hall. A small 6/6 sash window at second story level lights the back stair to the second story. The south bay on the main block has 6/6 sash windows at first and second story level. The door and window openings on this elevation have the same surround and shutter treatment as that on the rest of the house. The two central rear entrances are reached by a flight of wooden steps to an uncovered wooden deck set on high brick piers. An earlier rear porch deteriorated and was removed. Two 9-light windows light the foundation beneath the second and fourth bays.

The south gable end is complex, due to two additions. The main entrance porch wraps around and covers two bays on the south facade. The porch has been enclosed by 9/12 double-hung sash windows to form a sun room. There are five windows on the south elevation and two on the east elevation of the sun room. The foundation beneath the enclosed porch is entirely bricked-in. The cornice detail of the front porch remains on this enclosed section as does a porch post at the southwest corner. Two 6/6 sash windows light the second story of the main block above the sun room. A lunette window is in the gable peak. Two corbelled chimneys identical to those at the north gable end of the house rise from the east and west roof slopes.

Covering the west half of the south gable end is a low two story, two-by-two bay gable roof wing containing the kitchen. The wing stands on a high brick foundation and is covered with horizontal lapped wood siding. The cornice detail is identical to that on the main block except slightly



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. PG#79-6

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 3

reduced in scale. Windows are 6/6 sash with the plain board surrounds and black-painted louvered wooden shutters. The west elevation of the kitchen wing is flush with the west rear elevation of the main block. There is a rear entrance to the kitchen on the west elevation but the rear porch was removed and the door is not used because it is elevated approximately five feet above ground level.

Bleak Hill has a somewhat asymmetrical interior plan. The wide central stair hall runs the length of the house to a rear door. It is flanked on the north by two parlors connected by a wide rectangular doorway. On the south side of the stair hall is the dining room. The southwest quadrant of the first story is occupied by a side service hallway with a side stair, a pantry, bath and entrance to the kitchen wing.

The entrance hall has a high ceiling with a small circular plaster ceiling medallion located near the entrance door. The medallion has a large central daisy with a serrated geometric band around the perimeter. The entrance door has a wide board surround with an inner bead and long inset rectangular panels. The lintel is wide plain board with a prominent crown molding 4/5ths of the way to the top. The door has a very large brass box lock. The rectangular door panel next to the lock is smaller than the other panels to accommodate it. The plaster cornice molding in the hallway was added since 1980 by the present owners. It was executed by the Gianetti Studio, as was the medallion and cornice in the dining room.

The wooden base board is 10 inches high, with an inset molded cap and lower kickboard. The flooring is old, of variable width boards of 5 to 6 inches in width.

There are two doorways opening on each side of the hall, placed opposite each other. The door surrounds set on base blocks, are identical to that on the main entrance door. The doors are six-panel with brass knobs.

The open-string stair rises along the south wall of the hall. There are two turned balusters to a step. The stair ends have scroll brackets. The spandrel has vertical rectangular wainscotting. The heavy tapering octagonal newel post is set on an octagonal base and has a flattened bull's eye cap. The stair rises in a semi-circular turn to the second story, without a stair landing. There is a small six-panel door leading to a closet beneath the stair.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. PG#79-6

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 4

The northeast parlor has an ornate circular plaster ceiling medallion with floral and leaf design in high relief. There is a multi-band plaster cornice at ceiling level. The room connects to the adjoining northwest parlor through a high rectangular opening in the connecting wall, closed by hinged folding doors. There are four door sections, of six panels each.

The room is warmed by a hearth centered in the north wall. The marble mantel has a round-arch opening surmounted by a scrolled keystone. The frieze is divided into two triangular sections by the keystone. These areas are filled by a carved leaf spray design. The mantel shelf has a curving profile. The north window has a wooden wainscot panel beneath it.

The northwest parlor is warmed by a hearth centered in the north wall. The mantel is of black marble veined with pink, and has a rectangular hearth opening. There is a cornice at ceiling level but no plaster medallion. The north window flanking the hearth has a wooden wainscot panel beneath it. The west wall has modern built-in bookshelves flanking the central window.

The southeast dining room is warmed by a hearth centered in the south wall. The black marble mantel veined with grey and brown has an inset rectangular hearth opening with a wider Tudor arch surrounding it. The opening is flanked by flat pilasters on base blocks. There is a plain frieze and plain rectangular mantel shelf. The room's multi-band plaster cornice and daisy ceiling medallion are modern replacements. The wooden chair rail with central half round molding is a modern addition to the room. Two doorways flank the hearth. The southeast door leads to the sun porch, a 20th century addition to the house. The southwest door opens to a hall pantry in the kitchen wing. A doorway centered in the west wall of the dining room leads to the service hall adjoining the main stair hall. This service hall contains a stairway to the second floor along the north wall and a door to the rear porch at the west end.

The open-string service stair has a deeply turned newel post on a high circular base block. The balusters are plain and tapering, set two to a step. Door surrounds in this service area of the house are plain boards with a wide crown-molded lintel. The base board has a plain cap molding. At the east end of the hall is an access door to the main stair hall on the north. A small room reached through a door surmounted by a transom is on the south side of the hall. The original use of this room is unknown. It now serves as a laundry room. This side hall has an access door to the kitchen and at the west end, a bathroom. Just outside

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. P.G.#79-6

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 5

the kitchen a rear enclosed stair rises to the second story. A pantry is opposite, on the west.

The kitchen is modern. There is a large brick hearth in the north wall, a part of the southeast chimney. The segmental arched hearth opening is approximately 3½ feet in height, with an arch of brick stretchers and an inset row of headers flanking the sides of the opening. The hearth presently contains an old iron wood burning stove.

The second story has a T-shaped hallway. The main stairwell is lighted by a double 4/4 window at second story level. The west end of the hall has a north-south segment running into a bedroom on the north and into a side hall with access to the rear service stair on the south. The rear stair continues to the attic. The main east-west hall is entered from the stairway through an arch. It has a bathroom at the east end.

Door surrounds on the second story are the same as those in the service hall on the first story - plain boards with a wide, crowned-molded lintel. The northeast master bedroom is warmed by a hearth centered in the north wall. The mantel is of grey marble with black veins. It has an inset rectangular opening with a wider, Tudor-arch above it. The hearth opening is flanked by flat rectangular pilasters, has a plain frieze and rectangular mantel shelf. A door in the west wall leads through a bath to the northwest bedroom, which is warmed by a hearth with an identical marble mantel. The south side of the main stair hall contains a southeast bedroom warmed by a hearth centered in its south wall. The mantel is black marble veined with pink, of much the same detail as the mantel in the master bedroom. The central south room is narrow and has no hearth. A low door in the south wall leads to four steps down to a bedroom over the kitchen. This room can be reached by the enclosed rear stair opening immediately outside the kitchen on the first story.

The attic, reached from the service stair in the southwest corner of the house, has been finished as children's rooms. The attic is reached through a low 2-panel door. It is divided into two rooms, each lighted by the lunette window in the north and south gable ends.

The lawns surrounding Bleak Hill are landscaped with low boxwood hedges, holly and magnolia trees, and mature evergreen and deciduous trees including osage orange trees and tulip trees. The asphalt drive approaches the house from the northeast and forms a complete circle around the dwelling. There is also a small circular turnaround in front of the house, planted with boxwood at the center.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. PG#79-6

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 6

Sharing the high knoll with the house is a springhouse located just to the southwest. It has been repaired and restored since 1981 by the present property owners. The building is frame, 1 x 1 bay with a hipped wood-shingle roof. It is built into the down-sloping bank of the knoll, the south side supported on concrete piers, interspaced with wood lattice. The building is covered with lapped wood siding, with corner boards. There is a double door centered on the north side, of vertical boards with an upper, central and lower battin. A single six-light window is centered on the east and west sides. West of the house, farther down the knoll, is an approximately 10 x 12 foot deteriorating concrete foundation, for an unknown outbuilding.

The rolling 37-acre property south and west of Bleak Hill contains three tenant houses, and two twentieth century and one nineteenth century barn. South of the house at the base of the knoll is a one-story, 2 x 3 bay concrete block tenant house with a standing-seam metal, gable roof. This dwelling is reached from a gravel lane off of Wyville Road. Located just to the west is a frame, late 19th/early 20th century tenant house. Standing on a high brick foundation, there is a 2 x 1 bay two-story main block with a one-story west wing. The dwelling is typical of plain vernacular farm dwellings in the County, with a central side-gable entrance on the south elevation, sheltered by a facade-wide shed roof screened porch which continues across the one-story west wing. Windows are 6/6 double-hung wooden sash. The building is covered with German siding and roofed with corrugated metal. There is a small central brick chimney projecting from the gable roof ridge. Although located quite close to the concrete block tenant house, this dwelling is reached by an unpaved road with access off of Route 301.

The third tenant house is located on a knoll southwest of Bleak Hill, close to Route 301. It is an early twentieth century two-story frame dwelling influenced by the Foursquare building style, although it has an "L" shaped plan. The two-bay principal facade is oriented toward Old Crain Highway, to the east. There is a facade-wide shed roof entrance porch supported by two Tuscan Doric columns. Centered above the facade is a hipped-roof dormer. The dwelling is German sided and the hipped roof is covered with metal shingles. Windows are 2/2 double-hung wood sash with wide board surrounds. The house stands on a high poured concrete foundation. The rear "L" wing contains the kitchen. West of the house is frame garage and a small stable or barn of vertical board siding with a plain rectangular plan and a standing-seam metal gable roof.

Directly south of Bleak Hill, located in a flat, open field is a nineteenth century barn that has had extensive repairs since 1986. The rectangular building stands on low parged brick piers. The vertical board

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Survey No. PG#79-6

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 7

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siding has many repairs of wood of different degrees of age and weathering. There are vertical ventilator boards with old double strap hinges. The gable roof is covered with standing-seam metal. The gable ends face north and south. The south elevation has centered single and double entrances - of old vertical boards with long single iron strap hinges. The east elevation has centered double doors. The north gable end has a centered double door. The west elevation has one single entrance at the south end and one double entrance at the north end. All the entrance doors have old iron single or double strap hinges. Some of the vertical boards for the doors have been replaced with new wood.



## 8. Significance

Survey No. PG#79-6

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
				local history

Specific dates 1852 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Bleak Hill is significant as a well preserved and outstanding example of a Greek Revival style plantation house in Prince George's County. It is one of the larger, more ornate dwellings in that style surviving in the County. (See 82B-9, Waverly and 79-57, Woodlawn for residences of comparable date, size and plan.) The house was constructed in 1853 for Richard S. Hill on the 715-acre farm east of Upper Marlboro that he inherited from his father, Dr. William Hill. Virtually all of the land between the Patuxent River on the east and the boundary of the Town of Upper Marlboro on the west was part of the landholdings of the Hill family from the early 18th through the late 19th century. Bleak Hill is among four important historic dwellings in that area constructed by members of the Hill family and is significant for its association with that influential family. A total of 53 structures in an area of 1,450 acres surrounding Bleak Hill form a significant National Register eligible rural historic district to which Bleak Hill contributes.<sup>1</sup> (See Bleak Hill Study Area File, P.G. #79-63.)

In 1836 the County Court divided the lands of Dr. William Hill, deceased, among his four children. Richard Smith Hill (1816-1878), then a minor, inherited Lots 3 and 4, comprising a total of 682 acres, divided by the road from Upper Marlboro to Queen Anne.<sup>2</sup> The land tract had originally been a part of a tract called Giant's Range. Dr. William Hill had resurveyed his 2,182 3/4-acre holdings in 1818 and renamed it Woodland.<sup>3</sup>

In 1852 Richard Smith Hill began construction of his dwelling, which he called Bleak Hill. It was to this fine house that Hill brought his bride, Elizabeth Snowden Hill, in 1854. Bleak Hill became a noticeable landmark standing on a knoll on the west side of the Marlborough-Queen Anne Road. One slave quarter stood a short distance to the southwest on lower ground, and may have predated the house at Bleak Hill. (This log slave quarter was expanded in size at the end of the nineteenth century,

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM  
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. PG#79-6

Section 8 Page 2

and served as a tenant dwelling until it was demolished for health reasons circa 1980.) Several barns were also built close to and visible from the road; one of them, contemporary with the house, still stands about 800 feet to the south close to Wyvill Road.<sup>4</sup>

Richard Smith Hill of Bleak Hill was educated at Georgetown College and lived the life of a planter and slave owner. His large estate produced wheat, corn, oats, hay and sheep as well as tobacco. Hill died in 1878.<sup>5</sup> In 1887, by Equity Court decree, his real estate was divided among his three children and one grandson. His son, Francis W. Hill, received Lot #2, of 126 acres, containing the Bleak Hill mansion.<sup>6</sup> Francis Hill also made his living as a land owner and farmer.

Bleak Hill was sold from Hill family ownership by Francis W. Hill in 1923.<sup>7</sup> It passed through a series of ownerships during the 1920's, perhaps due to land speculation surrounding the construction of the Robert Crain Highway between 1922 and 1927. The roadway was to provide easy automobile travel between Baltimore and Southern Maryland. In the vicinity of Bleak Hill it followed the alignment of the old Marlborough-Queen Anne Road, passing east of the house.<sup>8</sup> Since 1945 the house has stood on a 4-1/2 acre parcel and has had only two ownerships. The present owners have purchased an additional 37 acres south and west of Bleak Hill, containing three tenant houses and three barns associated with the property including a 19th century barn which probably dates to the construction of the house.

Bleak Hill is notable for its large size, Georgian plan and Greek Revival architectural details on both the interior and the exterior of the building. The exterior of the main block has a prominent bracketed crown-molded cornice with deep returns in the north and south gable ends. There are lunette windows in the gable peaks, dentil molding around the entrance porch cornice and prominent wooden lintels above the windows and entry door. The south kitchen wing repeats at a smaller, simpler scale the moldings of the main block. The dwelling interior has an outstanding curving main stair with stair-end brackets and an octagonal newel post. The high six-panel doors on the first story have simple, boldly designed surrounds with an inset rectangular panel running the length of the surround and prominent lintel with cornice molding. There are six marble mantels in the dwelling.

Sharing its high knoll with the plantation house is a spring house of unknown age, in very good condition because it was resided and reroofed by the present owners. The rolling terrain surrounding Bleak Hill contains three tenant houses and three barns. The barn closest to and south of the

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM  
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. PG#79-6

Section 8 Page 3

house is significant as a mid-19th century structure, although it has had extensive renovation since 1986. The frame tenant house southwest of the plantation house probably dates to the late 19th century. The rest of the farm complex is made up of 20th century buildings. The frame tenant house farthest to the west, close to Route 301, may be a mail-order house. Its origin is unknown at this time.

Notes

1 Bleak Hill Study Area, P.G. #79-63, Susan G. Pearl, Research/Architectural Historian. A study conducted for The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission with grant funds provided by the Maryland Historical Trust, April/May 1988. Available in Room 4010, County Administration Building, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772.

2 Prince George's County Land Records, AB 11:415.

3 Pearl, op. cit.

4 Ibid.

5 Across the Years in Prince George's County, Effie Gwynn Bowie, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc. Baltimore, 1975, pg. 442-448; and U.S. Census, Agricultural Schedule, Prince George's County, Maryland, 1850-1880.

6 Land Records, Equity #1684; and Pearl, op. cit.

7 Land Records, 205:583.

8 Pearl, op. cit.



## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #79-6

See Notes, #8

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 4.5 acres

Tax Map 93

Quadrangle name Bristol D

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

Zone	Easting	Northing

B 

Zone	Easting	Northing

C 


D 


E 


F 


G 


H 


Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marina King, Architectural Historian

Prince George's County

organization Historic Preservation Commission

date June 1989

street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive, Room 4010

telephone 301-952-4609

city or town Upper Marlboro

state Maryland 20772

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey ~~and~~ inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: Bleak Hill				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Richard C. Hill House				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: 4103 Crain Highway (Rte 408)				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Prince George's	
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious    _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific    _____				
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: John M. Bucheister				
STREET AND NUMBER: 4103 Crain Highway (Rte. 408)				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Maryland	
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a two-story, frame building with a three-bay, main (east) facade. The central doorway, with transom and sidelight is flanked by double hung sash windows that extend to the floor of the porch. The windows have a heavy center mullion and twelve-pane double hung sash. The boxed cornice with console bracketing is returned in the gable ends. Widely spaced double end chimneys have a semi-circular window in the attic between the stacks. A porch extends across the facade and along the south end; it has paired square posts.

There is a frame meat house with a pyramidal roof covered with wooden shingles. A frame tenant house is one story with a large brick external chimney on the south end. The three bay facade has a central entrance. On the north end there is a two bay frame addition.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE****PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

**SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)****AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- |   |                                      |   |  |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | losophy                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | Architecture                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian		DATE 3 Oct 74
ORGANIZATION M-NCPPC		
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue		
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring	STATE Maryland	

## 12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

(11/5/79)

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey # 79-6 Date circa 1852  
Building Name Bleak Hill  
Location 4105 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, Md.  
Open to Public yes x no

Bleak Hill is a large, square, frame house, two stories high, three bays wide, and has a gable roof covered with tin and two interior chimneys at each gable end. Across the east facade is a one-story, three-bay porch with square chamfered posts. The porch continues around part of the south side, where it is glass enclosed. At attic level in the north and south gables, there is a lunette of delicately proportioned lights. The siding of the house consists of narrow clapboards. The boxed cornice is composed of crown molding, plain frieze, and "S" brackets; it returns at the gable ends.

There is a kitchen wing on the south side of the house, two stories high and two bays wide.

Bleak Hill is located on a portion of the tract "Giants Range" which was part of the vast estate of Clement Hill of Compton Bassett. It was built circa 1852 for Clement Hill's grandson, Richard Smith Hill. It remained in the ownership of Richard Smith Hill's descendants into the early 1900's. The house is important because of its size, location, and beauty of its architectural simplicity. The Hill family contributed significantly to the development of the community and the state.

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

P.G. #79-6

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC Bleak Hill

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

4105 Old Crain Highway

CITY, TOWN

Upper Marlboro

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY  
P.G.

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

- ☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

- ☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

- ☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES RESTRICTED  
☐ YES UNRESTRICTED  
☒ NO

#### PRESENT USE

- ☐ AGRICULTURE  
☐ COMMERCIAL  
☐ EDUCATIONAL  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT  
☐ GOVERNMENT  
☐ INDUSTRIAL  
☐ MILITARY  
☐ MUSEUM  
☐ PARK  
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ OTHER

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Gustavus Buchheister

Telephone #: 627-3590

STREET & NUMBER

4105 Old Crain Highway

CITY, TOWN

Upper Marlboro

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

20870

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

P.G. Co. Courthouse

Liber #: 788

Folio #: 5

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Upper Marlboro

STATE  
Md.

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

P.G. Survey (not in HABS)

DATE

1974

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Calvert Mansion, 4811 Riverdale Road

CITY, TOWN

Riverdale, Md.

STATE



# 7 DESCRIPTION

PG:79-6

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Bleak Hill, was named, it is said, because bleak was the condition of that hill during the winter when the house was being built. The house faces east with a pleasing vista of adjoining homes and farm land. It is a large, square, frame house, two stories high, three bays wide, and has a gable roof covered with tin and two interior chimneys at each gable end. Across the east facade is a one-story, three-bay porch with square chamfered posts. The porch continues around part of the south side, where it is glass enclosed.

The kitchen wing on the south of the main section is two stories high and two bays wide.

At each gable end of the main house, at attic level, there is a lunette of delicately proportioned lights. The siding consists of narrow clapboards. The boxed cornice is composed of crown molding, plain frieze, <sup>and</sup> "S" brackets; it returns at the gable ends.

The basement is brick.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY



**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

x local history

SPECIFIC DATES circa 1852

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bleak Hill is located on a portion of the tract "Giants Range" which was part of the vast estate of Clement Hill of Compton Bassett. It was built circa 1852 for Clement Hill's grandson, Richard Smith Hill. During the 19th century, six large homes of the Hill family were located in this area; now only Bleak Hill, Ashland, and Compton Bassett remain. The Lodge, Stratford, and Weymouth were destroyed by fires.

Bleak Hill remained in the ownership of Richard Smith Hill's descendants into the early 1900's. The house is important because of its size, location, and beauty of its architectural simplicity. Its association with the Hill family is significant because of their contributions to the development of Maryland and the local community.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

P.G. Co. Deeds

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Margaret W. Cook

ORGANIZATION

P.G. Historical &amp; Cultural Trust

DATE

October 1979

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Calvert Mansion, 4811 Riverdale Rd.

TELEPHONE

779-2011

CITY OR TOWN

Riverdale, Md.

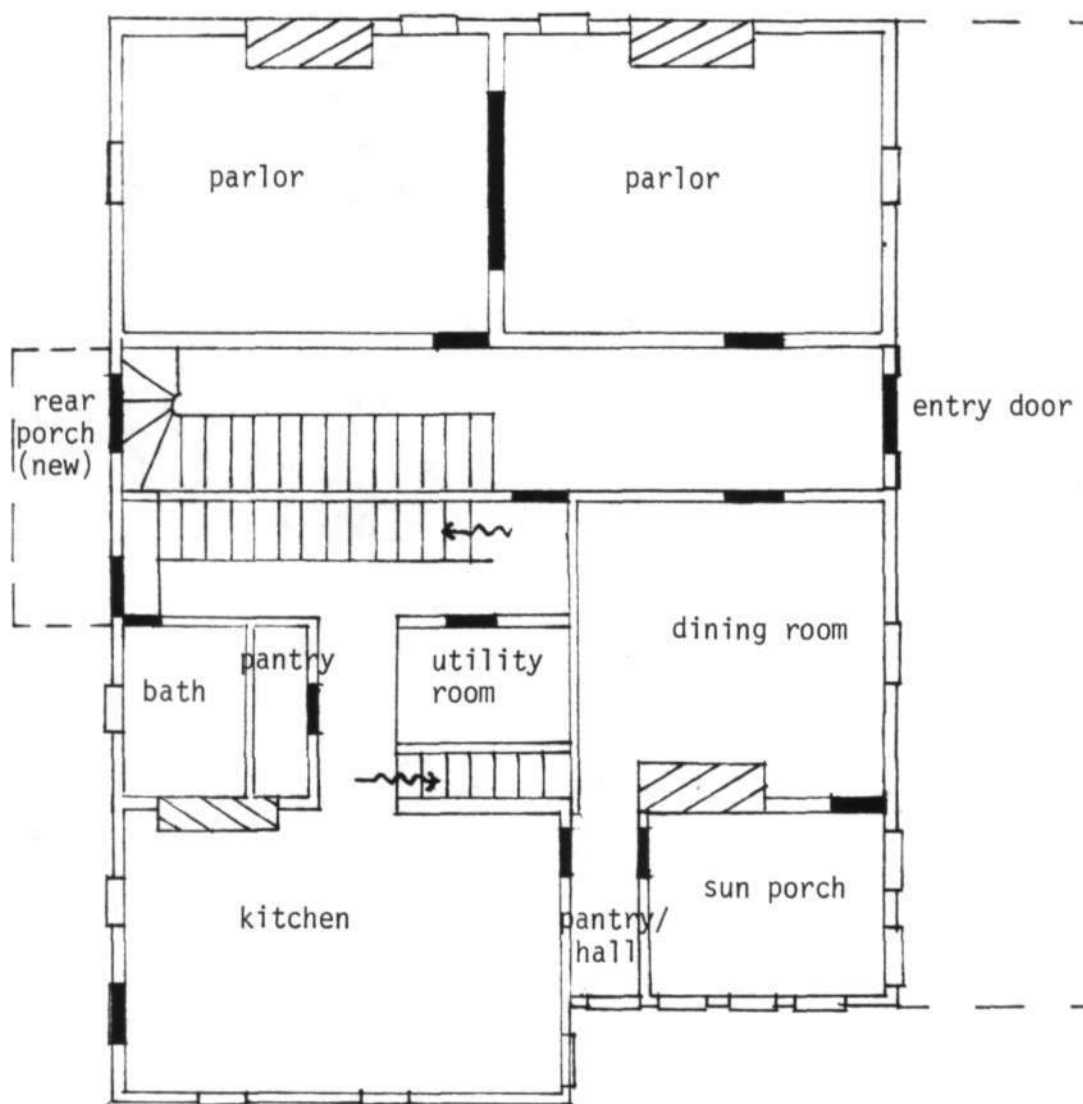
STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

P.G.#79-6  
Bleak Hill  
Spring 1989  
Partially to scale



Chain of Title  
Bleak Hill  
P.G. #79-6

5413:54  
1 June 1981  
Deed

Katherine Field Buchheister, surviving tenant of  
Gustav A. Buchheister deceased, died testate  
January 16, 1980, Ad # 28,311, to Jack and Elizabeth  
Queen. For \$180,000 grantor conveys 4-1/2 acres.

788:5  
1945  
Deed

M. Hampton and Mittie H. Magruder to Gustav and  
Katherine Field Buchheister. For \$7,500 grantors  
convey a part of property obtained from National  
Tribune Company 4 Aug. 1930, 355:134. 4-1/2 acres.  
Magruder retains tenant house.

355:134  
4 Aug. 1930  
Deed

National Tribune Co. to M. Hampton Magruder. For \$10  
grantor conveys Lots 1 and 2 of Bleak Hill subject to  
a mortgage, balance of which is \$15,000.

325:334  
16 Aug. 1928  
Deed

Clara B. McCanna to National Tribune Co. For \$10  
grantor conveys Lot 1 of Bleak Hill and part of Lot  
2, excepting 110.29 acres sold to Samuel Wyvill, Oct.  
23, 1924, 223:183.

223:183  
23 Oct. 1924  
Deed

Clara B. McCanna to Samuel A. Wyvill. For \$10  
grantor conveys part of Bleak Hill, recorded 216:87.  
110.29 acres together with right-of-way 10' wide from  
Marlboro Queen Anne Road along south line of mansion  
house yard.

216:87  
12 June 1924  
Deed

Frank S. and Suzella Carroll to Clara B. McCanna.  
For \$10 grantors convey Lots 1 and 2 of Bleak Hill,  
264.68 and 126.11 acres respectively.

203:383  
21 Nov. 1923  
Deed

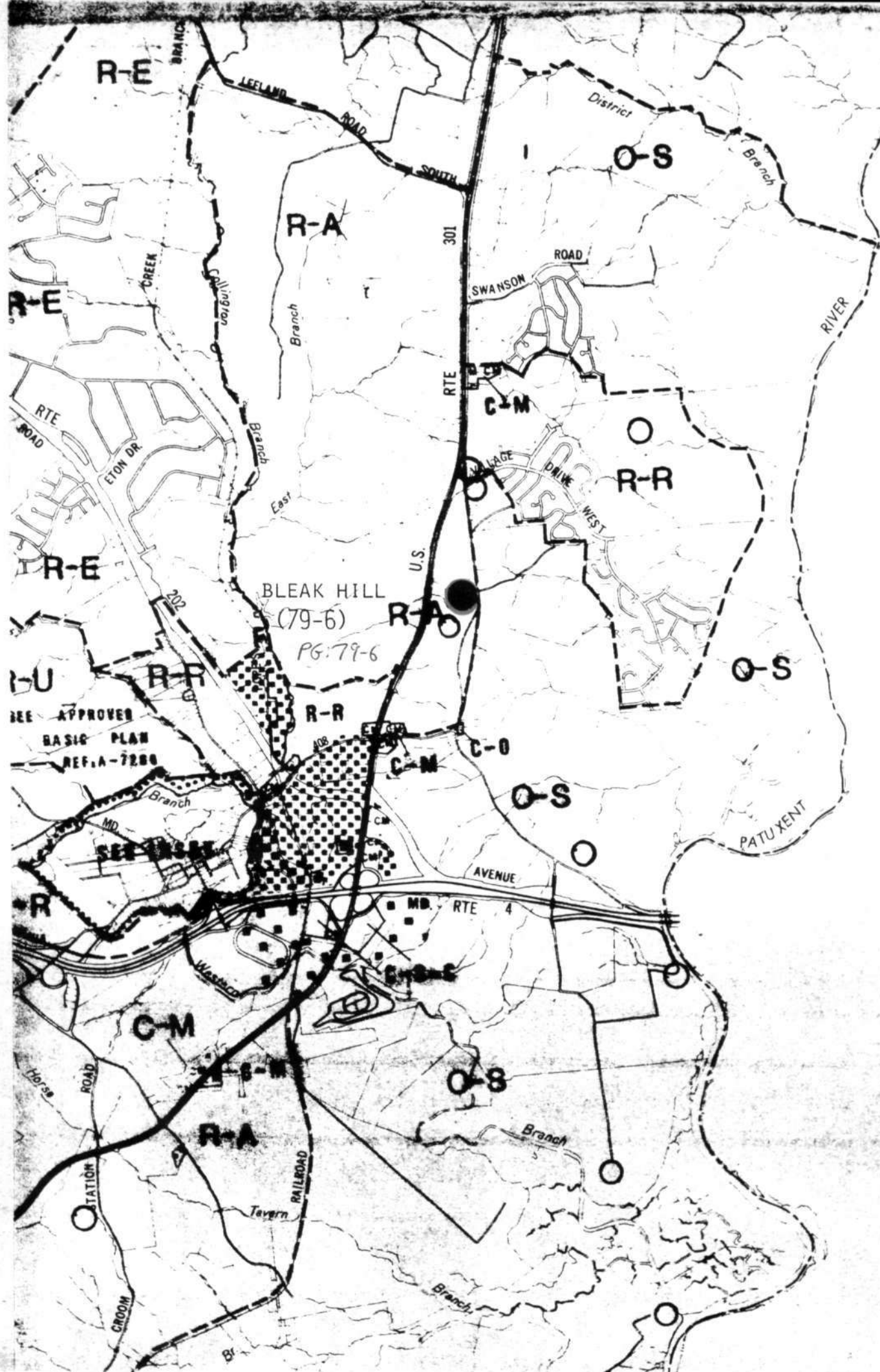
Frank W. and Grace C. Hill to Frank S. Carroll. For  
\$10 grantors convey Lots 1 and 2 of Bleak Hill. Lot  
1 conveyed to grantors by JWB 9:609, Lot #2 conveyed  
by Equity 1684.

Equity #1684  
JWB 8:246  
Chancery  
July 14, 1888, Plat  
Decree Dec. 28, 1887

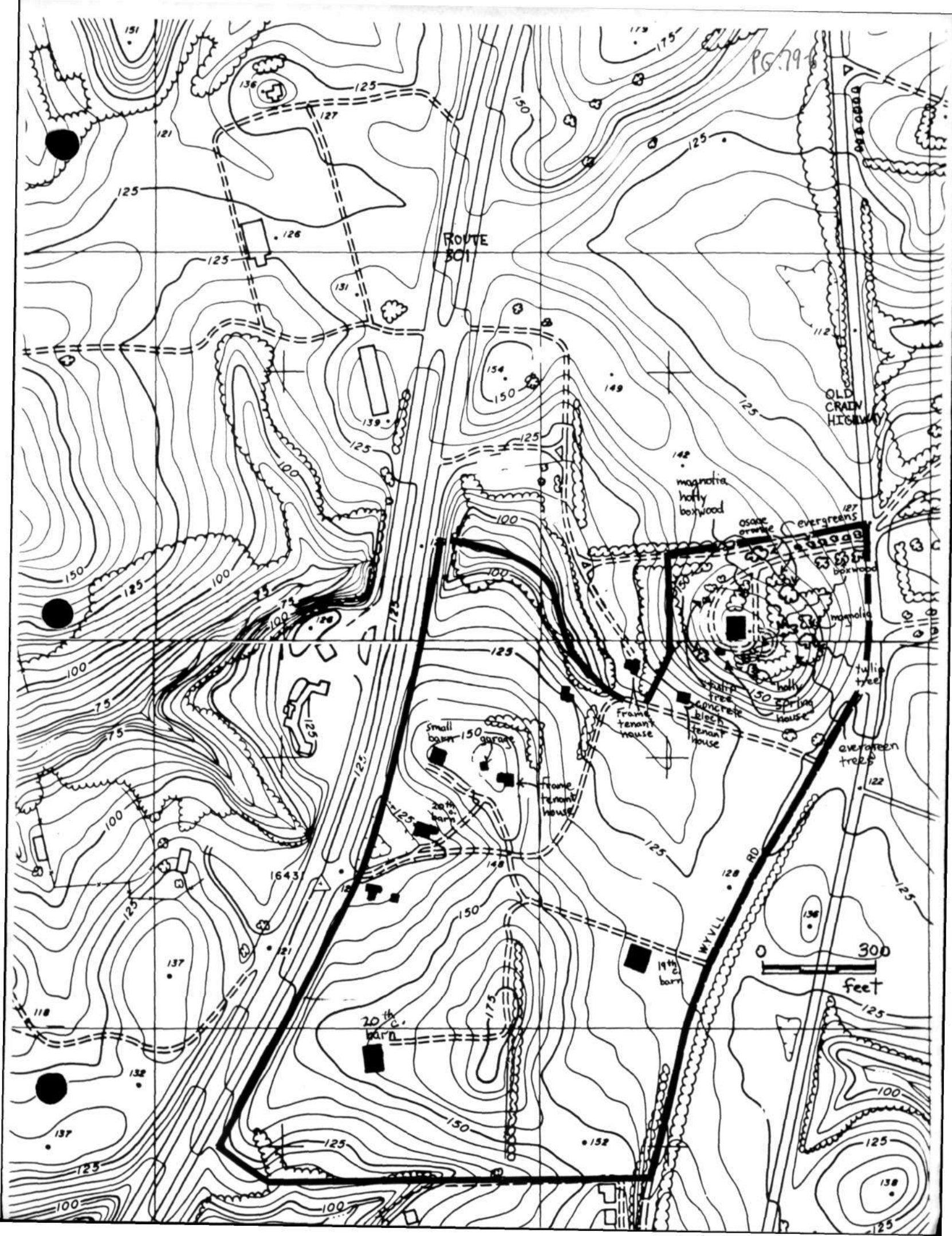
Division of Real Estate of Richard S. Hill. Lot 2,  
126.11 acres, contains mansion house, allotted to  
Frank W. Hill.

AB 11:415  
21 Oct. 1836  
Division of Real  
Estate

By Act of Assembly, December 1835, Real Estate of  
William Hill to be divided. Lots 3 and 4, both of  
357-1/4 acres, to Richard S. Hill. Tract called  
Giant's Range.







JOHN M. MYERS  
5923/214  
43.09A  
P.8

P. 29  
PAUL P. TUCKER  
4837/213  
9.17A.  
P. 164

FRED WY  
6502/1  
12.50  
P.37

JACK QUEEN  
5413/054  
4.50 A. P.87

ROBERT S.  
JAMESON JR. ETAL  
4440/684  
3.99 A.  
P. 12

JACK QUEEN  
5252/888  
34.30 A.  
P.13

JOSEPHINE  
HALL  
ADM.13775  
P.42

HOLMES G. HOPKINS  
2267/579  
24.45A.  
P/O P.90

RICHARD F. VIRGIN  
6072/547  
6.50A  
P.30

VALIN S.  
MITCHELL ETAL  
6041/717  
15.52A  
P.9

447-37  
18.00A.  
P.44

JAMES E RIDGELY  
1062/278  
21.00A.  
P.7

6290  
LOT 1

408

P.72  
P.74  
P.75  
OOA  
P.46

R-A

PG 79-6

O-S

R-A

O-S

C-O

R-R

C-M

Robert Crain Highway

HWY.

CRAIN

OLD

HAGENS

ST. P/O

788

17

16

15

14

13

12

11

10

9

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

PG:79-6  
Bleak Hill  
(Eligible NR Boundaries)  
4103 Old Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro  
Bristol quadrangle





1303000m N.

27  
28  
44  
42  
53

5661 IV SE  
UPPER MARLBORO





P.G.# 79-6

Bleak Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

East, main elevation

Negatives - MD Historical  
Trust, Annapolis



P.G.# 79-6

Bleak Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

South elevation

Negative - MD Historical  
Trust, Annapolis



P.G. # 79-6

Black Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

West elevation

Negatives - MD Historical  
Trust, Annapolis





P.G. # 79-6

Bleak Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

N elevation

Negatives- MD Historical  
Trust, Annapolis



P.G. #79-6

Beak Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina Ring

March 1988

Main Entrance-East

Negatives- MD Historical

Trust, Annapolis



P.G. #79-6

Bleak Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

NE bedroom

Negatives - MD Historical

Trust, Annapolis





P.G. #79-6

Bleak Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

NE parlor

Negatives - MD Historical

Trust, Annapolis



P.G. # 79-6

Bleak Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

Dining room

Negatives - MD Historical  
Trust, Annapolis



PG #79-6

Blank Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

Kitchen hearth

Negative - MD Historical  
Trust, Annapolis



P.G.#79-6

Bleak Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

Stair detail

Negatives - MD Historical  
Trust, Annapolis





P.G. #79-6

Black Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

Hall, looking W

Negatives - MD Historical  
Trust, Annapolis



P.G. #79-6

Bleak Hill

Prince George's County MD

Marina King

March 1988

Hall, looking E

Negatives - MD Historical

Trust, Annapolis



P.G. #79-6

Bleak Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

Wall detail, looking W

Negatives - MD Historical  
Trust, Annapolis





PG. #79-6

Bleak Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

Entry door

Negatives - MD Historical  
Trust, Annapolis



PG# 79-6

Bleak Hill tenant house

Prince George's Co. MD

Marina King

April 1989

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis MD

4103 Old Crain Hwy from: SE  
of



PG# 79-6

Bleak Hill tenant house

Prince Georges Co. MD

April 1989

Marina King

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis MD

4103 Old Crain Hwy From: SE  
of



PG# 79-6

Bleak Hill tenant house

Prince George's Co. MD

Marina King

April 1989

Neg: Md Hist. Trust, Annapolis MD

4103 Old Crain Hwy From: NE





P.G. # 79-6

Bleak Hill

Prince George's County, MD

Marina King

March 1988

Spring house, NW

Negatives - MD Historical  
Trust, Annapolis



PG # 79-6

Bleak Hill

Prince George's Co. MD

Marina King

April 1989

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis MD

South barn



PG# 79-6

Bleak Hill

Prince George's Co. MD

Marina King

April 1989

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis MD

South barn from:

of





NAME BLEAK HILL TENANT HOUSE

P6: 79-6

LOCATION Rt. 408 & WYVILLE Rd. UPPER MARLBORO, Md.

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 10/3/74 M DWYER



NAME BLEAK HILL

PG: 79-6

LOCATION WYVILLE Rd. & Rt. 408, UPPER MARLBORO, Md.

FACADE E

PHOTO TAKEN 10/3/74 M DWYER